

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 050353

64

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARN:TJCAROLAN:PDW

APPROVED BY: NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

S/S-O:AOTTO

NEA:EGABINGTON

----- 082448

O 020341Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 050353

EXDIS MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT AMMAN 1089 ACTION SECSTATE INFO JIDDA

DTG 281533Z FEB

QUOTE

S E C R E T AMMAN 1089

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS,PFOR, JO, US, SA

SUBJECT: HAWK-VULCAN AIR DEFENSE FUNDING

REF: (A) STATE 048170, (B) STATE 049031, (C) JIDDA 1453

1. WHEN I SAW RIFAI MORNING FEB 28 ON OTHER SUBJECTS,
I TOLD HIM THAT WE PLANNED TO BE IN CONTACT WITH SAUDIS
TO ASCERTAIN THE DIMENSIONS OF THEIR DECISION. IN THE
ABSENCE OF ANY CLEAR INDICATION FROM DEFENSE ABOUT PARA K
AND BECAUSE WE HAD NOT TOLD JORDANIANS LOA WOULD TERMINATE,
I DID NOT RAISE THEIS PORTION OF MY INSTRUCTIONS WITH RIFAI
REFTEL C).

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 050353

2. RIFAI PASSED ON TO ME THE FACT THAT HE AND KING HAD DISCUSSED THE ISSUE WITH SYRIANS FEB 27. ASAD'S REACTION WAS THAT JORDAN SHOULD DO ALL POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE WITH US PROGRAM. SAUDIS HAD MADE A MISTAKE IN CUTTING FUNDING, BUT JORDANIANS WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO CONTINUE TO TRY TO WORK WITH THE US. IF IT FINALLY TURNED OUT THAT JORDAN HAD TO GO TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR AIR DEFENSE MISSILES BECUASE OF THE SAUDI DECISION, JORDAN SHOULD DO SO FOR THIS ONE LIMITED PROGRAM ONLY. JORDAN WOULD MAKE A SERIOUS MISTAKE IF IT CUTS ITS TIES WITH US ASSISTANCE OR DID ANYTHING WHICH INJURED ITS CAPACITY TO CONTINUE TO KEEP ON WITH THE US IN AN IMPORTANT MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP. IN THE EVENT JORDAN WAS REQUIRED BY THE SAUDI DECISION TO SEEK SOVIET MISSILES, JORDAN SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO EXPLAIN AS COMPLETELY AND CLEARLY AS POSSIBLE TO THE US. SYRIA WOULD HELP IN DOING THIS WHEREVER IT COULD.

3. IN ADDITION IF JORDAN FELT THAT OBTAINING SOVIET MISSILES THROUGH SYRIA FOR THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAM WOULD BE IN ITS INTERESTS, SYRIA WOULD BE READY TO HELP. JORDAN COULD ALSO TRAIN THEIR TROOPS IN SYRIA TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE INORDER TO AVOID SENDING THEM TO THE SOVIET UNION OR ACCEPTING SOVIET TROOPS ON JORDANIAN TERRITORY. RIFAI TELLS ME THAT ASAD SAID IN ADDITION THAT 90 PLUS PERCENT OF ALL SYRIAN TRAINING TAKES PLACE IN SYRIA AND THAT JORDAN WAS WELCOME TO USE SUCH FACILITIES FOR A MISSILE AIR DEFENSE TRAINING PROGRAM IF THE SITUATION CAME TO THAT POINT.

4. IN THE COURSE OF THIS CONVERSATION, RIFAI TELLS ME THAT ABD AL-HALIM KHADDAM URGED ASAD TO TAKE A VERY TOUGH STAND AGAINST SAUDI ARABIA FOR ITS DECISION TO SUPPLY ONLY A LIMITED AMOUNT OF FUNDS FOR JORDAN AND ALSO BECAUSE SAUDIS HAD RECENTLY TAKEN A FIRMER ANTI-SYRIAN AND PRO-EGYPTIAN STAND. RIFAI SAID ASAD ASKED FOR HIS OWN OPINION. RIFAI SAID HE URGED A COOPERATIVE POLICY WITH SAUDI ARABIA, INDICATING THAT THERE MIGHT EVEN BE SOME

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 050353

ADVANTAGE IN USING SAUDI GENEROSITY TO EGYPT TO OBTAIN MORE SUPPORT FOR SYIRA AND JORDAN. SYRIA AND JORDAN WOULD BE MAKING A SERIOUS MISTAKE IF THEY ISOLATED SAUDIS. RIFAI SAID ASAD AGREED COMPLETELY WITH HIS POSITION ON THIS POINT.

5. RIFAI ASKED ME WHEN WE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH SAUDIS. ON BASIS OF REFTELS, I SAID I THOUGHT IT MIGHT

BE AS EARLY AS TODAY. HE SAID THAT IN VIEW OF HIS AND
THE KING'S DEPARTURE AROUND MIDNIGHT TONIGHT LOCAL TIME, HE
WOULD APPRECIATE MY RELAYING ANY WORD WHICH US COULD
PASS ON AS A RESULT OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SAUDIS
OVER SAUDI INTENTION ON THE JORDAN HAWK PROGRAM. I
SAID I WOULD TRY MY BEST TO DO SO.

6. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT PASS THIS MESSAGE TO DAMASCUS AND
CAIRO.
PICKERING UNEUOTW INERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE050353
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/ARN:TJCAROLAN:PDW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760078-0456
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603103/aaaadmvg.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 48170, 76 STATE 49031, 76 JIDDA 1453
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HAWK-VULCAN AIR DEFENSE FUNDING
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, JO, US, SA, SY
To: USCINCEUR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006